

Legislation Aims to Create Jobs, Increase Energy Independence

Washington, DC –On Monday, Congressman Harry Teague discussed his plans to introduce a bill that encourages the use of recycled rubberized asphalt in road projects. Teague looked for input on his Recycled Roads Act as he visited Hobbs Iron and Metal, a recycling facility in Lea County that processes local materials, including tires for rubberized asphalt. After touring the facility, Harry Teague met with company representatives to discuss the legislation and potential for rubberized asphalt.

“Encouraging the use of rubberized asphalt is a straightforward step to spurring job creation in the recycling industry while helping to reduce the amount of waste in our landfills and lessen our environmental impact. And ultimately, our roads will be more durable, longer lasting, safer and quieter,” said Harry Teague, a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. “As we look to ways to increase our nation’s energy independence, it’s important that we find new ways to utilize resources we have here at home. By using rubberized asphalt in road projects, rather than asphalt, we can reduce our dependence on foreign oil, helping to strengthen our national security and keep America as a leader in alternative energy.”

The Recycled Roads Act aims to provide incentives for transportation projects that utilize recycled rubber and to provide incentives for using rubberized asphalt in transportation related public works projects. Teague’s bill also encourages recycled roads by increasing the federal share for projects utilizing rubberized asphalt by 10 percent. As rubberized asphalt utilizes significant amounts of scrap tire rubber – between 1,000 and 1,500 tires can be recycled for every lane mile of road constructed – the legislation would also help to reduce the waste of old tires that litter landfills across the country.

“The Recycled Roads Act is a huge step, not just for New Mexico but for America. This legislation will create an opportunity to open new recycling plants and new jobs throughout the country as we recycle tires and put them towards a new use,” said Gene Day, President of Hobbs Iron and Metal, Inc. “In addition, this bill will also help towns and cities struggling to balance their budget by tremendously reducing landfill waste and, in turn, landfill costs. Congressman Teague has been highly attentive to the needs of both our industry and environment and should be commended for his commitment to this legislation.”



Harry Teague discusses his new Recycled Roads Act Legislation while visiting Hobbs Iron and Metal,

a recycling facility based in Lea County.

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